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PATENT TH-1786 (US)

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Richard F. Lemuth

Date: August 26, 2005

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------------|
| )                       |
| ) Group Art Unit: 1625  |
| ) Examiner: Taylor V. O |
| )                       |
| )                       |
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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office Action dated July 26, 2005, please enter the following remarks.

## **REMARKS**

In response to Examiner's requirement of restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-13, for prosecution on the merits.

Applicants propose that the prior art search conducted for claims 1-13 (Group I) would significantly overlap the prior art search conducted for claims 14-27 (Group II) and claim 28 (Group III). Therefore, examination of the entire application, including Groups I, II and III together, would not result in a substantially increased burden upon the Examiner. Given that the restriction requirement is discretionary with the Examiner, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the requirement for restriction.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications or take such other action as deemed necessary with respect to the non-elected groups.

Respectfully submitted,

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